

(12) **United States Patent**
Cheng et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 9,299,787 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 29, 2016**

(54) **FORMING IV FINS AND III-V FINS ON INSULATOR**

(71) Applicant: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, NY (US)
(72) Inventors: **Kanguo Cheng**, Schenectady, NY (US); **Bruce B. Doris**, Slingerlands, NY (US); **Pouya Hashemi**, White Plains, NY (US); **Ali Khakifirooz**, Los Altos, CA (US); **Alexander Reznicek**, Troy, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, NY (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **14/499,395**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 29, 2014**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
H01L 21/84 (2006.01)
H01L 29/20 (2006.01)
H01L 29/10 (2006.01)
H01L 29/16 (2006.01)
H01L 21/306 (2006.01)
H01L 21/308 (2006.01)
H01L 21/265 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC **H01L 29/1054** (2013.01); **H01L 21/26506** (2013.01); **H01L 21/3083** (2013.01); **H01L 21/30604** (2013.01); **H01L 29/16** (2013.01); **H01L 29/20** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC H01L 29/1054; H01L 29/16; H01L 29/20; H01L 29/785; H01L 29/7855; H01L 21/26506; H01L 21/30604; H01L 21/3083; H01L 21/845

See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

8,716,797 B2	5/2014	Basker et al.
2011/0068407 A1	3/2011	Yeh et al.
2012/0068264 A1 *	3/2012	Cheng H01L 29/66795 257/347
2013/0099283 A1	4/2013	Lin et al.
2013/0161756 A1	6/2013	Glass et al.
2013/0196488 A1	8/2013	Hekmatshoartabari et al.
2013/0228864 A1	9/2013	Mieno
2013/0256799 A1	10/2013	Wu et al.
2013/0309847 A1	11/2013	Maszara et al.
2013/0320294 A1	12/2013	Cappellani et al.
2013/0330916 A1	12/2013	Pham et al.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Pending U.S. Appl. No. 14/177,447, entitled: "Method to Form Group III-V and Si/Ge FINFET on Insulator and Integrated Circuit Fabricated Using the Method", filed on Feb. 11, 2014.

* cited by examiner

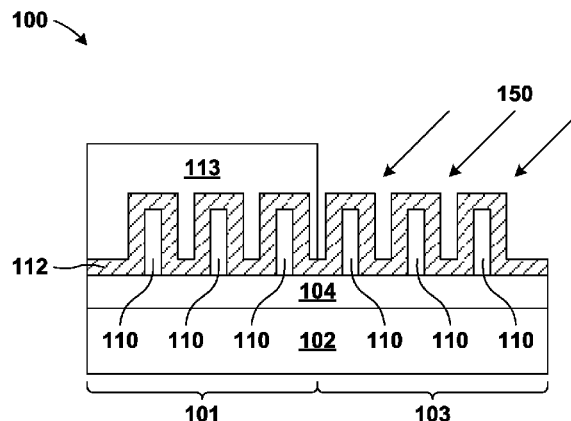
Primary Examiner — Whitney T Moore

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — David Zwick; Louis J. Percello

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method of forming a semiconductor structure. The method may include; forming first fins in a pFET region and an nFET region using epitaxial growth, the first fins are a group IV semiconductor; forming a spacer layer on the first fins; removing the spacer layer from a top surface and a first side of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the first fins are exposed on the top surface and the first side of the first fins in the nFET region; and forming second fins on the exposed portion of the first fins using epitaxial growth, the second fins are a group IV semiconductor, the second fins have a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the first pitch is equal to the second pitch, the first fins and the second fins have a shared bottom surface.

14 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



100 →

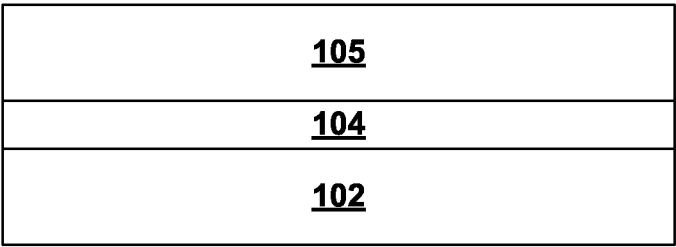


FIG. 1

100 →

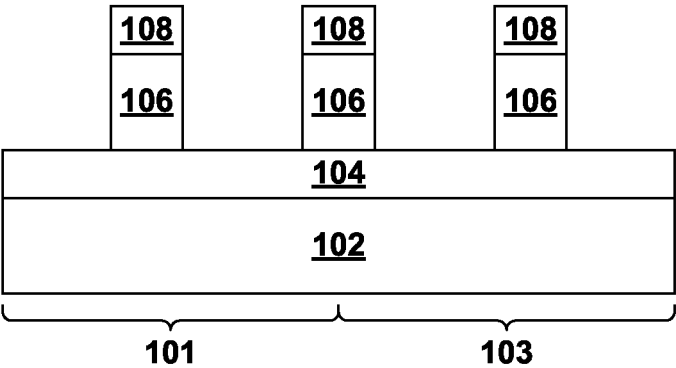


FIG. 2

100 →

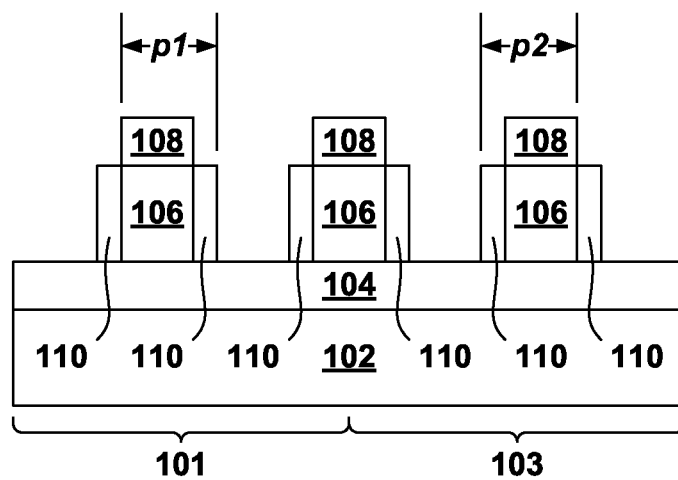


FIG. 3

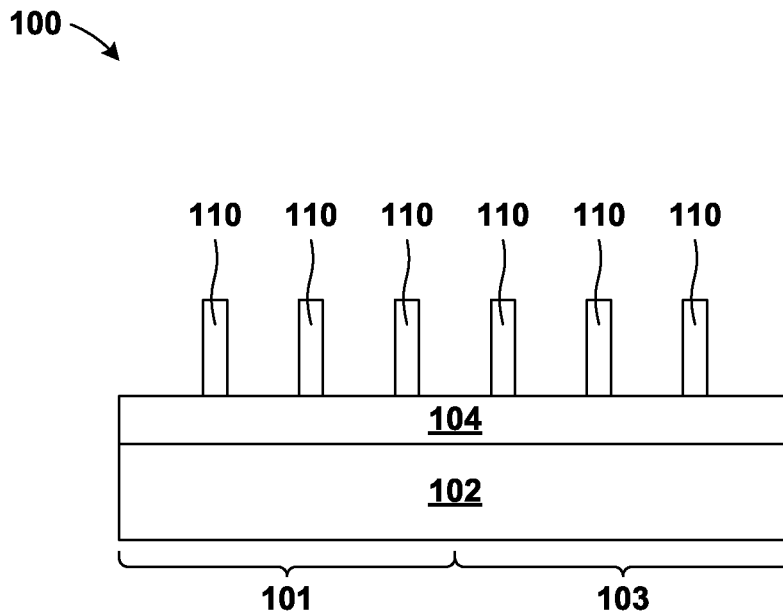


FIG. 4

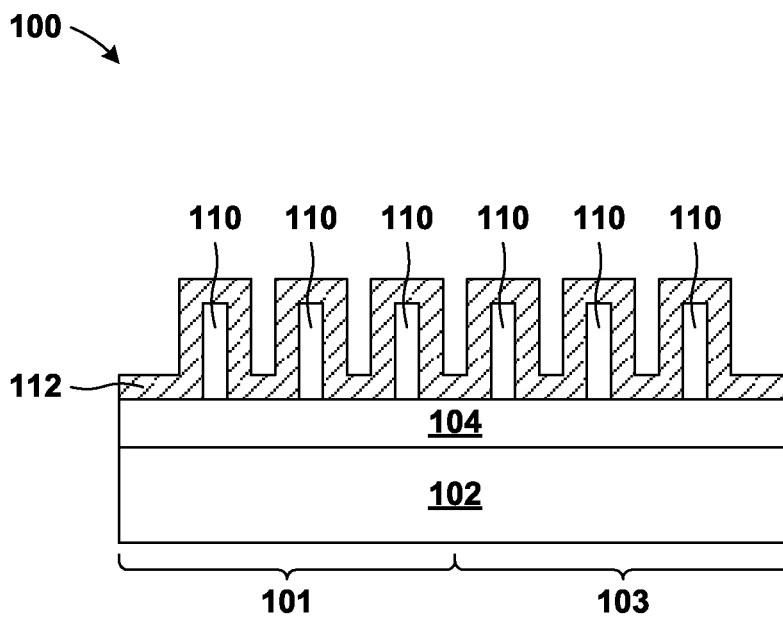


FIG. 5

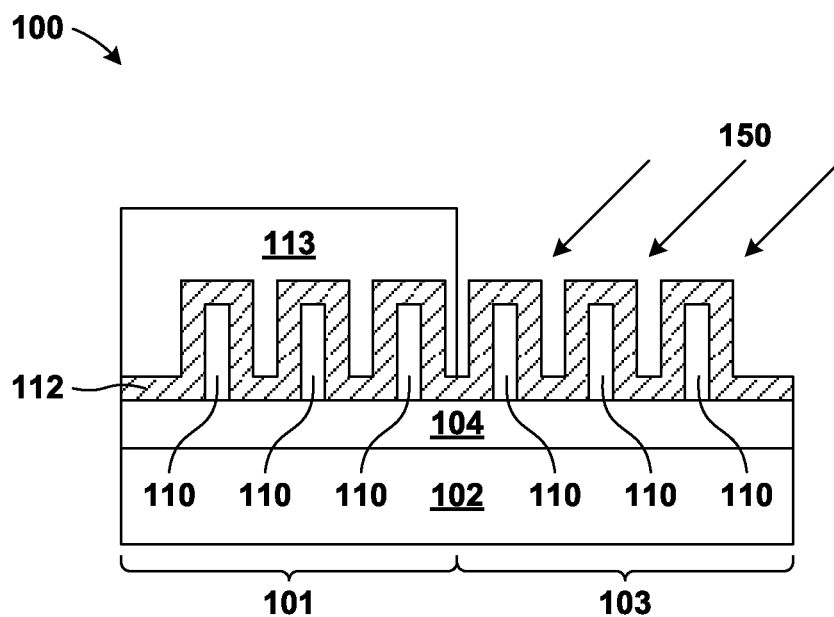


FIG. 6

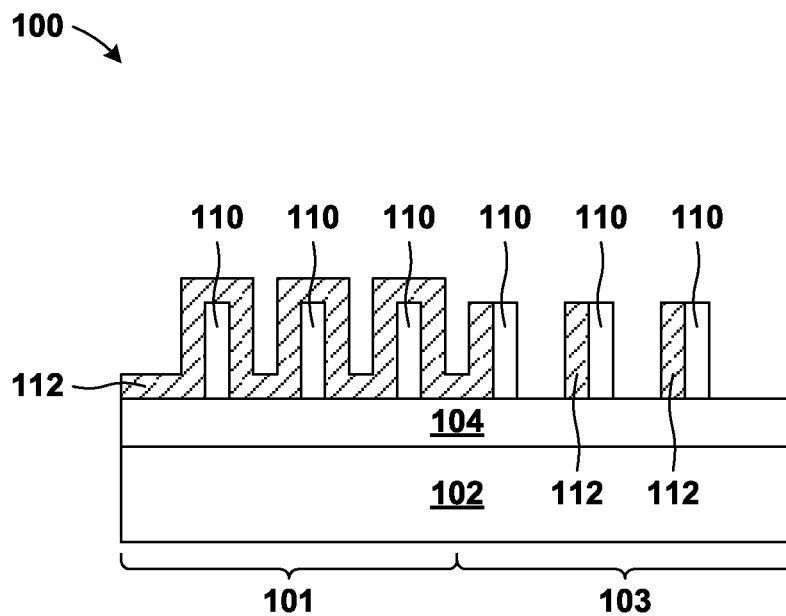


FIG. 7

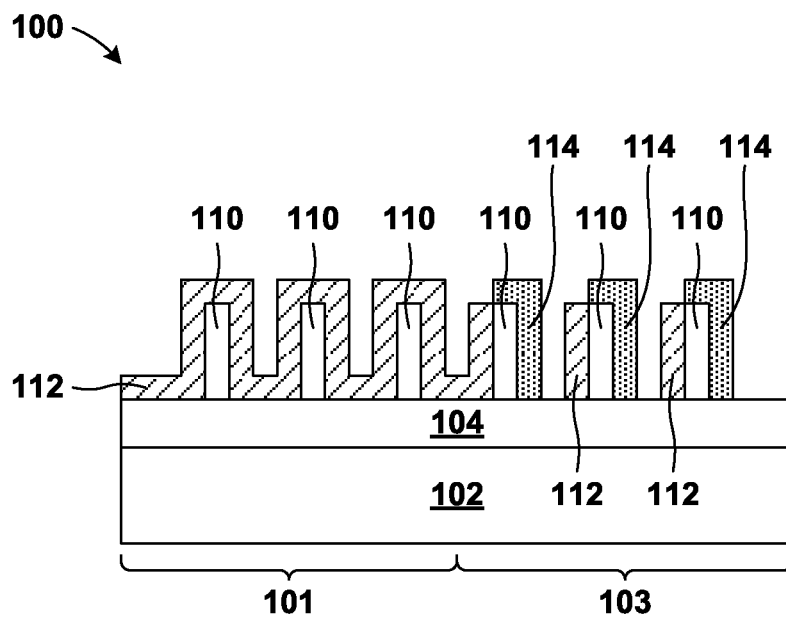


FIG. 8

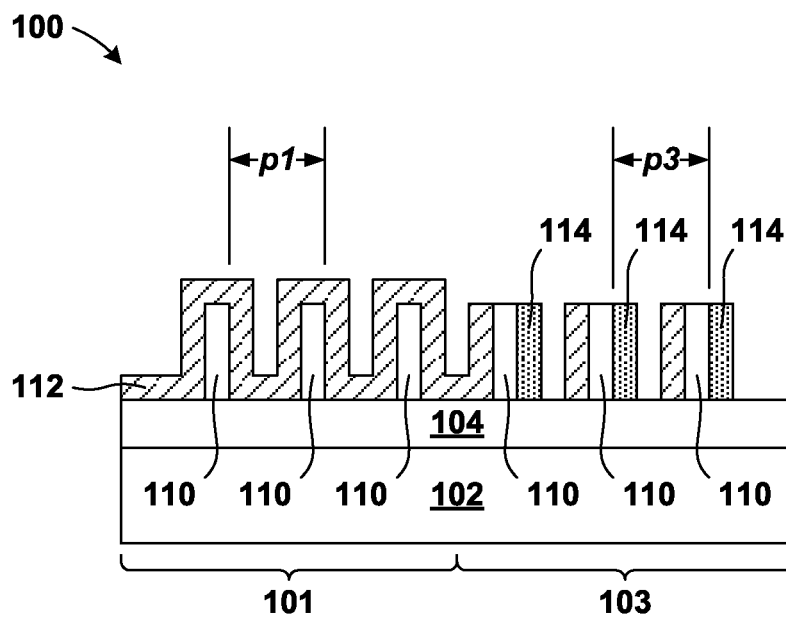


FIG. 9

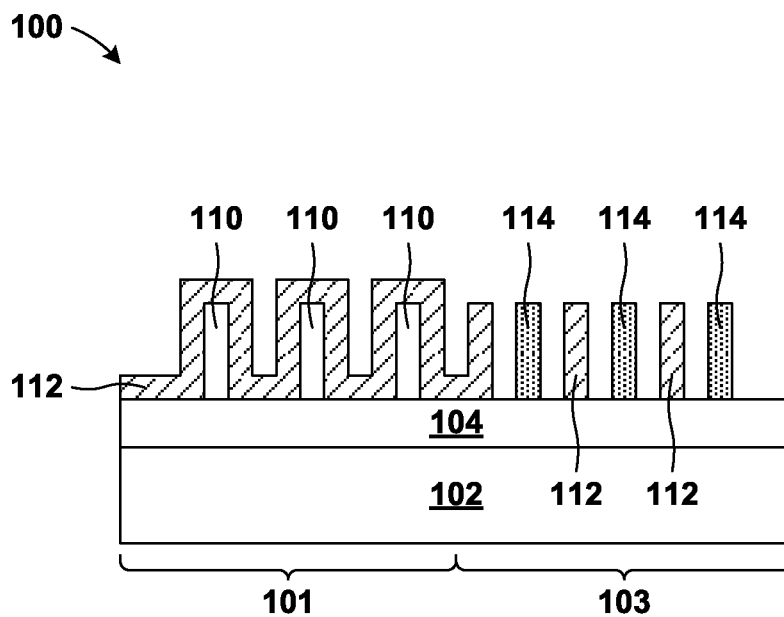


FIG. 10

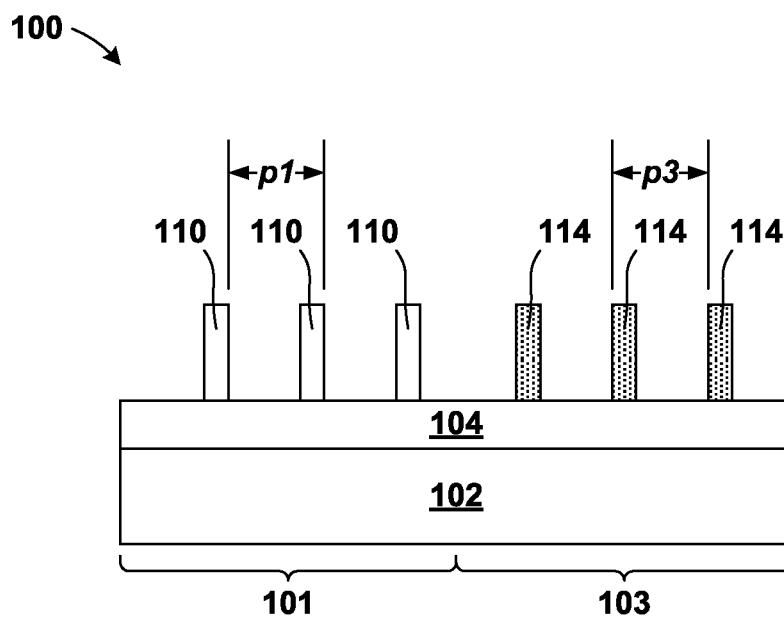


FIG. 11

1

FORMING IV FINS AND III-V FINS ON INSULATOR

BACKGROUND

The present invention generally relates to semiconductor device manufacturing, and more particularly to the fabrication of III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface.

The downscaling of the physical dimensions of metal oxide semiconductor field effect transistors (MOSFETs) has led to performance improvements of integrated circuits and an increase in the number of transistors per chip. Multiple gate MOSFET structures, such as fin field effect transistor's (fin-FETs) and tri-gate structures, have been proposed as promising candidates for 14 nm technology nodes and beyond. In addition, high-mobility channel materials, such as III-V and germanium, have been proposed as technology boosters to further improve MOSFET scaling improvements.

Integration of lattice mismatched semiconductor materials is one path to high performance semiconductor devices such as complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS) field-effect transistors (FET) due to their high carrier mobility. For example, the heterointegration of lattice mismatched semiconductor materials with silicon will be useful for a wide variety of device applications. However, disadvantages associated with structural characteristics of lattice mismatched devices can decrease device performance, require additional processes or design constraints to counter-effect such structural characteristics or reduce manufacturing yield.

SUMMARY

According to one embodiment of the present invention, a method is provided. The method may include forming first fins on sidewalls of mandrels using epitaxial growth, the mandrels are on a buried insulator layer, the buried insulator layer is on a base substrate, the first fins have a first pitch between adjacent first fins, the first fins include a material of the IV semiconductor group, the first fins are grown in a pFET region and an nFET region; removing the mandrels; forming a conformal spacer layer directly on the first fins, the conformal spacer layer is in the nFET region and the pFET region; damaging the conformal spacer layer on a top surface and a first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the conformal spacer layer remains undamaged on a protected side of the first fins in the nFET region, the protected side of the first fins in the nFET region include surfaces opposite the first side surface, a mask protects the conformal spacer layer in the pFET region from damage; removing the damaged conformal spacer layer from the top surface and the first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region exposing a portion of the first fins in the nFET region; forming second fins on the exposed portion of the first fins using epitaxial growth, a bottom surface of the second fins is coplanar with a bottom surface of the first fins, the second fins have a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the second pitch is equal to the first pitch, the second fins include a material of the III-V semiconductor group, the second fins are grown in the nFET region; etching a top surface of the second fins to the top surface of the first fins, wherein the top surface of the second fins is coplanar with the top surface of the first fins; and removing the first fins from the nFET region.

According to another embodiment of the present invention, a method is provided. The method may include forming first fins on sidewalls of mandrels using epitaxial growth, the first fins have a first pitch between adjacent first fins, the first fins

2

are in a pFET region and an nFET region; forming a spacer layer on the first fins in the pFET region and in the nFET region; removing the spacer layer from a top surface and a first side of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the spacer layer remains on a protected side of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the first fins are exposed on the top surface and the first side of the first fins in the nFET region, wherein the first fins remain covered by the spacer layer in the pFET region; forming second fins on the exposed portion of the first fins using epitaxial growth, the second fins have a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the first pitch is equal to the second pitch, the second fins are in the nFET region, the first fins and the second fins have a shared surface comprising a coplanar bottom surface of the first fins and a coplanar bottom surface of the second fins; and etching a top surface of the second fins to the top surface of the first fins, wherein the top surface of the second fins is coplanar with the top surface of the first fins.

According to another embodiment of the present invention, a structure is provided. The structure may include a set of first fins in a pFET region and a set of second fins in an nFET region, the first fins and the second fins are on a buried insulator layer, the first fins have a bottom surface coplanar with a bottom surface of the second fins, the first fins have a first pitch between adjacent first fins that is equal to a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the first fins include a group IV semiconductor material, the second fins include a group III-V semiconductor material.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

The following detailed description, given by way of example and not intended to limit the invention solely thereto, will best be appreciated in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a cross section view of a semiconductor structure, according to an exemplary embodiment.

FIG. 2 is a cross section view of the semiconductor structure and illustrates the formation of mandrels.

FIG. 3 is a cross section view of the semiconductor structure and illustrates the formation of IV fins on sidewalls of the mandrels.

FIG. 4 is a cross section view of the semiconductor structure and illustrates the removal of the mandrels.

FIG. 5 is a cross section view of the semiconductor structure and illustrates the formation of a spacer layer on the IV fins.

FIGS. 6 and 7 are cross section views of the semiconductor structure and illustrate the removal of the spacer layer from a top surface and a side surface of the IV fins in an nFET region.

FIGS. 8 and 9 are cross section views of the semiconductor structure and illustrate the formation of III-V fins on the top surface and the side surface of the IV fins in the nFET region.

FIGS. 10 and 11 are cross section views of the semiconductor structure and illustrate the removal of the IV fins from the nFET region and the spacer layer from the nFET region and a pFET region.

The drawings are not necessarily to scale. The drawings are merely schematic representations, not intended to portray specific parameters of the invention. The drawings are intended to depict only typical embodiments of the invention. In the drawings, like numbering represents like elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Detailed embodiments of the claimed structures and methods are disclosed herein; however, it can be understood that

the disclosed embodiments are merely illustrative of the claimed structures and methods that may be embodied in various forms. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the exemplary embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these exemplary embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete and will fully convey the scope of this invention to those skilled in the art. In the description, details of well-known features and techniques may be omitted to avoid unnecessarily obscuring the presented embodiments.

References in the specification to “one embodiment”, “an embodiment”, “an example embodiment”, etc., indicate that the embodiment described may include a particular feature, structure, or characteristic, but every embodiment may not necessarily include the particular feature, structure, or characteristic. Moreover, such phrases are not necessarily referring to the same embodiment. Further, when a particular feature, structure, or characteristic is described in connection with an embodiment, it is submitted that it is within the knowledge of one skilled in the art to affect such feature, structure, or characteristic in connection with other embodiments whether or not explicitly described.

For purposes of the description hereinafter, the terms “upper”, “lower”, “right”, “left”, “vertical”, “horizontal”, “top”, “bottom”, and derivatives thereof shall relate to the disclosed structures and methods, as oriented in the drawing figures. The terms “overlying”, “atop”, “on top”, “positioned on” or “positioned atop” mean that a first element, such as a first structure, is present on a second element, such as a second structure, wherein intervening elements, such as an interface structure may be present between the first element and the second element. The term “direct contact” means that a first element, such as a first structure, and a second element, such as a second structure, are connected without any intermediary conducting, insulating or semiconductor layers at the interface of the two elements.

In the interest of not obscuring the presentation of embodiments of the present invention, in the following detailed description, some processing steps or operations that are known in the art may have been combined together for presentation and for illustration purposes and in some instances may have not been described in detail. In other instances, some processing steps or operations that are known in the art may not be described at all. It should be understood that the following description is rather focused on the distinctive features or elements of various embodiments of the present invention.

The present invention generally relates to semiconductor device manufacturing, and more particularly to the fabrication of III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface. Ideally, it may be desirable to form III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface without the need for long epitaxial growth times and with low levels of defects. The purpose of forming III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface may be to allow circuit designers to follow the design rule, as is known in the art.

One way to form III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface is to form the IV fins in a pFET region and an nFET region, form a spacer layer on the IV fins, remove the spacer layer from a top surface and a side surface of the IV fins in the nFET region, form the III-V fins on the top surface and the side surface of the IV fins in the nFET region, remove the IV fins from the nFET region, and remove the spacer layer from both the pFET and nFET regions. One embodiment by which to form III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface is described in detail

below with reference to the accompanying drawings FIGS. 1-11. It should be noted, the present embodiment utilizes the III-V group and IV group semiconductors but other materials may be used. Additionally, IV fins may be referred to as first fins and the III-V fins may be referred to as second fins.

Referring now to FIGS. 1 and 2, demonstrative illustrations of a structure 100 during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface are provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can start with fabricating mandrels 106 in a substrate.

The substrate may be any substrate known in the art, such as, for example, a semiconductor-on-insulator (SOI) substrate or a bulk substrate. In an embodiment, an SOI substrate is used. The SOI substrate includes a semiconductor layer 105, a buried insulator layer 104, and a base substrate 102. The semiconductor layer 105 is on the buried insulator layer 104 and the buried insulator layer 104 is on the base substrate 102. The SOI substrate may be formed using any technique known in the art, such as, for example, Separation by Ion Implantation of Oxygen (SIMOX) or a layer transfer process. When a layer transfer process is employed, an optional thinning step may follow the bonding of two semiconductor wafers together. The optional thinning step can reduce the thickness of a layer to a desirable thickness. In an alternative embodiment, if a bulk substrate is used, an insulating material (e.g., oxide) may be used to electrically isolate subsequently formed components (e.g., fins).

In some embodiments, the base substrate 102 and the semiconductor layer 105 may include a same or similar semiconductor material. In other embodiments, the base substrate 102 and the semiconductor layer 105 may include a different material. The term “semiconductor material” as used herein may denote any semiconducting material including, for example, silicon (Si), germanium (Ge), silicon-germanium (SiGe) or other semiconductors. Multi-layers of semiconductor materials can also be used for the base substrate 102 and/or the semiconductor layer 105. In an embodiment, both the base substrate 102 and the semiconductor layer 105 include silicon. In another embodiment, the base substrate 102 is a non-semiconductor material, such as, for example, a dielectric material and/or a conductive material.

The base substrate 102 and the semiconductor layer 105 may have similar or may have different crystal orientations. For example, the crystal orientation of the base substrate 102 and/or the semiconductor layer 105 may be {100}, {110}, or {111}. Other crystallographic orientations besides those specifically mentioned can also be used. The base substrate 102 and/or the semiconductor layer 105 may be a single crystalline semiconductor material, a polycrystalline material, or an amorphous material. Typically, at least the semiconductor layer 105 is a single crystalline semiconductor material. In some embodiments, the semiconductor layer 105, located above the buried insulator layer 104, can be processed to include semiconductor regions having different crystal orientations.

The buried insulator layer 104 may be a crystalline or non-crystalline oxide or nitride. In an embodiment, the buried insulator layer 104 is an oxide, such as, for example, silicon dioxide. The buried insulator layer 104 may be continuous or discontinuous. The buried insulator layer 104 may typically have a thickness from about 1 nm to about 500 nm. In an embodiment, the buried insulator layer 104 may have a thickness ranging from about 10 nm to about 100 nm. In an alternative embodiment, the buried insulator layer 104 may

include multiple dielectric layers or a stack of dielectric layers including a silicon oxide layer and/or a silicon nitride layer.

With reference to FIG. 2, the mandrels 106 may be formed in the semiconductor layer 105 using a hardmask 108. The hardmask 108 may be formed on the semiconductor layer 105 using any deposition technique known in the art, such as, for example, chemical vapor deposition, plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition, atomic layer deposition, or physical vapor deposition. The hardmask 108 may include any masking material known in the art, such as, for example, silicon nitride (Si_3N_4), silicon carbide (SiC), silicon carbon nitride (SiCN), hydrogenated silicon carbide (SiCH), or any other masking material. In an embodiment, the hardmask 108 is a silicon nitride. A mandrel pattern may be formed in the hardmask 108 using any known patterning technique known in the art, such as, photolithography. The mandrels 106 may be formed by transferring the mandrel pattern into the semiconductor layer 105. The mandrel pattern may be transferred into the semiconductor layer 105 by etching the semiconductor layer 105 selective to the hardmask 108 and the buried insulator layer 104 (i.e., etching the semiconductor layer 105, where the hardmask 108 is a mask and the buried insulator layer 104 is an etch stop). There may be a mandrel pitch between any two adjacent mandrels. In an embodiment, a set of mandrels may be in a pFET region 101 and a set of mandrels may be in an nFET region 103. It should be noted, a “set” may refer to any number of mandrels 106, including a single mandrel. The mandrels 106 may have the same width as any adjacent mandrels.

Referring now to FIG. 3, a demonstrative illustration of a structure 100 during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface is provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include growing IV fins 110 on sidewalls of the mandrels 106.

The IV fins 110 may be grown on the sidewalls of the mandrels 106 in the pFET and nFET regions 101, 103 using any formation technique known in the art, such as, for example, epitaxial growth. Epitaxy growth may be a layer of monocrystalline semiconductor material which grows outward from an exposed surface of an existing monocrystalline semiconductor region or layer. The epitaxial layer may have the same composition as the semiconductor region on which it is grown, the same impurities (e.g., dopants and their concentrations), or, alternatively, the compositions of the epitaxial layer and the underlying semiconductor region can be different. The IV fins 110 may have a thickness ranging from about 2 nm to about 10 nm. Defects may begin to occur in epitaxial growth if a critical thickness is exceeded, the critical thickness may range from about 2 nm to about 10 nm. In an embodiment, the IV fins 110 may be selectively grown on the sidewalls of the mandrels 106 and not on the hardmask 108 or the buried insulator layer 104, as illustrated. The IV fins 110 may be germanium and have a thickness of about 8 nm.

The IV fins 110 may be any material known in the art, such as, for example, germanium, silicon germanium, or other good pFET materials. In an embodiment, the IV fins 110 may be germanium. There may be a fin pitch between any two adjacent IV fins 110. A first pitch (p1) may be between adjacent IV fins 110 in the pFET region 101 and a second pitch (p2) may be between adjacent IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103. The first pitch (p1) may be the same as the second pitch (p2). In an embodiment, both the first pitch (p1) and the second pitch (p2) are equal to about 42 nm.

Referring now to FIG. 4, a demonstrative illustration of a structure 100 during an intermediate step of a method of

fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface is provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include removing the hardmask 108 and the mandrels 106.

The hardmask 108 and the mandrels 106 may be removed using any mask removal technique as is known in the art, such as, for example, RIE. The etching technique used to remove the mandrels 106 may etch the mandrels 106 selective to the IV fins 110 and the buried insulator layer 104 (i.e., etching the mandrels 106 and using the IV fins 110 and the buried insulator layer 104 as an etch stop). An alternative method may include depositing a protective material on the buried insulator layer 104 and etching the mandrels 106 selective to the IV fins 110.

Referring now to FIG. 5, a demonstrative illustration of a structure 100 during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface is provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include forming a spacer layer 112 on the IV fins 110.

The spacer layer 112 may be conformally formed on the IV fins 110 using any deposition technique known in the art, such as, for example, chemical vapor deposition, plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition, or atomic layer deposition. The spacer layer 112 may have a thickness ranging from about 2 nm to about 15 nm. The spacer layer 112 may be any spacer material known in the art, such as, for example, an oxide or a nitride.

Referring now to FIGS. 6 and 7, demonstrative illustrations of a structure 100 during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface are provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include removing the spacer layer 112 from a top surface and a side surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103.

First, a mask 113 may be formed on the IV fins 110 in the pFET region 101 using any deposition and patterning technique known in the art, such as, for example, photolithography. The mask 113 may be any masking material known in the art, such as, for example, oxide, nitride, or oxynitrides.

Next, a portion of the spacer layer 112 may be removed from the top surface and the side surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103 by exposing the top surface and the side surface to an angled removal process 150. A protected surface of the IV fins 110 may be a side opposite the side surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103 exposed to the angled removal process 150. The angled removal process 150 may be any angled removal process known in the art, such as, for example, an angled ion implantation (damaging the spacer layer 112 on the top surface and the side surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103 and not damaging the spacer layer 112 on the protected surface) and a wet etch (removing the damaged spacer layer 112) or an angled etch (e.g., gas cluster ion beam). The angled removal process 150 may expose a portion of the IV fins 110 on the top surface and the side surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103 (i.e., remove a covering portion of the spacer layer 112 from above the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103). The spacer layer 112 may remain on the protected surface of the IV fins 110 in the nFET region 103. The mask 113 may be removed using any mask removal technique as is known in the art.

In an embodiment, a possible ion implantation for performing damage to the spacer layer 112 is Xenon ions at 5 keV to a concentration of $3 \times 10^{14}/\text{cm}^2$ at an angle of 30° . More generally, it is preferred to use relatively massive ions both as a matter of delivering a suitable level of kinetic energy to target materials and damaging the targeted materials to cause the

materials to etch more rapidly. The ion implantation angle chosen should also assure the implantation into the entire height of the spacer layer **112** and may need to be adjusted if the IV fins **110** are formed in particularly close proximity to each other. Depending on the thickness of the spacer layer **112**, the implant dose can range from $2 \times 10^{13}/\text{cm}^2$ to $2 \times 10^{15}/\text{cm}^2$, the implant energy can range from about 0.5 KeV to about 100 KeV and the implant angle can range from 15° to 75° . Once the spacer layer **112** is damaged, a removal step may be performed to remove the damaged spacer layer **112** using any technique known in the art, such as, for example, a wet etch containing a solution of hydrofluoric acid as the etchant.

Referring now to FIGS. **8** and **9**, demonstrative illustrations of a structure **100** during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface are provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include forming the III-V fins **114** on the exposed portion of the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103**.

The III-V fins **114** may be formed on the exposed portions of the IV fins **110** using any technique known in the art, such as, for example, epitaxial growth. The epitaxial growth of the III-V fins **114** may use the IV fins **110** as a seed layer. The spacer layer **112** may protect against the growth of III-V fins **114** on the IV fins **110** in the pFET region **101** and the protected surface of the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103**. The III-V fins **114** may directly contact the buried insulator layer **104**; the III-V fins **114** and the IV fins **110** may share a bottom surface coplanar with a top surface of the buried insulator layer **104**. If the III-V fins **114** form on the top surface of the IV fins **110**, the III-V fins **114** may be removed from the top surface of the IV fins **110** using any removal technique known in the art, such as, for example, reactive ion etch (RIE) or any chemical mechanical polishing. The III-V fins **114** may be etched or polished to have a top surface coplanar with the top surface of the IV fins **110**. In an embodiment, the III-V fins **114** may be removed from the top surface of the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103** using RIE, where the spacer layer **112** remains on the top surface of the IV fins **110** in the pFET region **101**. In an alternative embodiment, the III-V fins **114** may be polished and the spacer layer **112** may be removed from the top surface of the IV fins **110** in both the pFET and nFET regions **101**, **103**, this may subsequently require another masking step to protect the IV fins **110** in the pFET region **101** during subsequent processing steps.

The III-V fins **114** may have a similar thickness to the IV fins **110** (e.g., ranging from about 5 nm to about 100 nm). The III-V fins **114** may have a third pitch (p3) between any adjacent III-V fins **114**. The third pitch (p3) may be similar to the first pitch (p1).

Referring now to FIGS. **10** and **11**, demonstrative illustrations of a structure **100** during an intermediate step of a method of fabricating III-V fins and IV fins having a similar fin pitch and on a shared surface are provided, according to an exemplary embodiment. More specifically, the method can include removing the IV fins **110** from the nFET region **103** and removing the spacer layer **112** from both the pFET and nFET regions **101**, **103**.

The spacer layer **112** may cover the IV fins **110** in the pFET region **101**, where the top surface of the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103** are exposed. First, the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103** may be removed using any etching technique known in the art, such as, for example, RIE selective to the spacer layer **112**, the III-V fins **114**, and the buried insulator layer **104**. In other words, the IV fins **110** in the nFET region **103** may be etched, where the spacer layer **112** and the

III-V fins **114** are used as masks, and the buried insulator layer **104** is used as an etch stop. Next, the spacer layer **112** may be removed from both the pFET and nFET regions **101**, **103** using any etching technique known in the art, such as, for example, RIE selective to the III-V fins **114** and the buried insulator layer **104**.

After the IV fins **110** are removed from the nFET region **103** and the spacer layer **112** is removed from both the pFET and nFET regions **101**, **103**; a set of IV fins **110** may remain in the pFET region **101** and a set of III-V fins **114** may remain in the nFET region **103**. The third pitch (p3) may be equal to the first pitch (p1). The bottom surface of the III-V fins **114** may be coplanar with the bottom surface of the IV fins **110**, and both the III-V fins **114** and the IV fins **110** may be directly on the shared surface (e.g., the top surface of the buried insulator layer **104**). Circuit designers may prefer to follow a design rule for adjacent nFET and pFET regions (e.g., nFET fins and pFET fins having a similar thickness and pitch), as is known in the art. A benefit may include reducing cost and processing time by forming the III-V fins **114** with a thickness less than the critical thickness described above. The embodiment may avoid long growth times used in deep trench growth (i.e. aspect ratio trench growth), which may also avoids the defects that come with such growth.

The descriptions of the various embodiments of the present invention have been presented for purposes of illustration, but are not intended to be exhaustive or limited to the embodiments disclosed. Many modifications and variations will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. The terminology used herein was chosen to best explain the principles of the embodiment, the practical application or technical improvement over technologies found in the marketplace, or to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the embodiments disclosed herein.

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

forming first fins on sidewalls of mandrels using epitaxial growth, the mandrels are on a buried insulator layer, the buried insulator layer is on a base substrate, the first fins have a first pitch between adjacent first fins, the first fins include a material of the IV semiconductor group, the first fins are grown in a pFET region and an nFET region; removing the mandrels;

forming a conformal spacer layer directly on the first fins, the conformal spacer layer is in the nFET region and the pFET region;

damaging a portion of the conformal spacer layer on a top surface and a first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the conformal spacer layer remains undamaged on a protected side of the first fins in the nFET region, the protected side of the first fins in the nFET region include surfaces opposite the first side surface, a mask protects the conformal spacer layer in the pFET region from damage;

removing the damaged portion of the conformal spacer layer from the top surface and the first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region exposing a portion of the first fins in the nFET region;

forming second fins on the exposed portion of the first fins using epitaxial growth, a bottom surface of the second fins is coplanar with a bottom surface of the first fins, the second fins have a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the second pitch is equal to the first pitch, the second fins include a material of the III-V semiconductor group, the second fins are grown in the nFET region;

9

etching a top surface of the second fins to the top surface of the first fins, wherein the top surface of the second fins is coplanar with the top surface of the first fins; and removing the first fins from the nFET region.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
removing the conformal spacer layer from the first fins in the pFET region and from the protected side of the first fins in the nFET region.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the mandrels are silicon and the first fins are germanium.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the conformal spacer layer is damaged on the top surface and the first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region using an angled ion implantation process.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the conformal spacer layer is removed from the top surface and the first side surface of the first fins in the nFET region using a wet etch containing a solution of hydrofluoric acid.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein a thickness of the first fins is equal to a thickness of the second fins.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein a thickness of the first fins is below a critical thickness of a semiconductor material included in the first fins.

8. A method comprising:

forming first fins on sidewalls of mandrels using epitaxial growth, the first fins have a first pitch between adjacent first fins, the first fins are in a pFET region and an nFET region;

forming a spacer layer on a top surface and sidewalls of the first fins in the pFET region and in the nFET region;

removing a portion of the spacer layer from a top surface and a first side of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the spacer layer remains on a protected side of the first fins in the nFET region, a portion of the first fins

10

are exposed on the top surface and the first side of the first fins in the nFET region, wherein the first fins remain covered by the spacer layer in the pFET region;

forming second fins on the exposed portion of the first fins using epitaxial growth, the second fins have a second pitch between adjacent second fins, the first pitch is equal to the second pitch, the second fins are in the nFET region, the first fins and the second fins have a shared surface comprising a coplanar bottom surface of the first fins and a coplanar bottom surface of the second fins; and etching a top surface of the second fins exposing the top surface of the first fins, wherein the top surface of the second fins is coplanar with the top surface of the first fins.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:
removing the spacer layer from the first fins in the pFET region and from the protected side of the first fins in the nFET region.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein the mandrels are silicon and the first fins are germanium.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein the spacer layer is damaged on the top surface and the first side of the first fins in the nFET region using an angled ion implantation process.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein the spacer layer is removed from the top surface and the first side of the first fins in the nFET region using a wet etch containing a solution of hydrofluoric acid.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein a thickness of the first fins is equal to a thickness of the second fins.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein a thickness of the first fins is below a critical thickness of a semiconductor material included in the first fins.

* * * * *